

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 5-11 are pending.

Claims 1 and 5-11 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under §103(a) as being obvious over WO96/27766 to Brehm. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

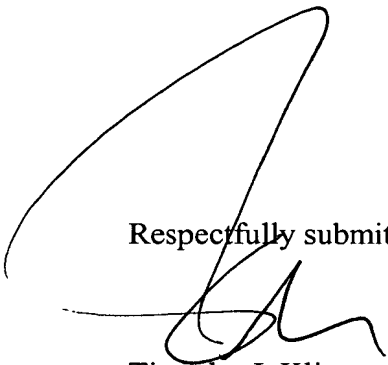
The Examiner states that figure 1 of the Brehm reference and Fig 1 of the present invention are identical. While they do have similarities, neither discloses the limitations of claim 1 that the outer-flame tube wall includes a first arrangement of ports including a single first row of ports and the inner flame-tube wall includes a second arrangement of ports including a single first row of ports, with an alignment of the ports of the second arrangement being either on-center or off-center with interspaces of the first row of ports of the first arrangement. In fact, Brehm does not disclose or suggest anything, either in the Figures or text, about the alignment of the two arrangements of ports with respect to one another. Therefore, Brehm does not anticipate or render obvious the present invention as claimed in claim 1. Claim 1 has been amended slightly to clarify that the ports of the first and second arrangements are the ports identified earlier in the claim that introduce air into the common main zone. It is noted that the air streams 14 of Brehm introduce air into the pilot zone.

In view of the above, it is believed that claim 1 is in allowable condition. Claims 5-11 all depend from claim 1 and are allowable for the same reason, as well as for the further limitations contained therein.

It is believed that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If anything else of a minor nature is required to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Appln. of: SCHILLING
Filed: April 27, 2001
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Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 11, 2003.



Timothy J. Klima

APPENDIX

(Claims With Markings To Show Changes Made)

1. (Twice Amended) A gas-turbine combustion chamber comprising:

at least one pilot zone associated with a pilot burner;

at least one common main zone associated with a main burner, the pilot burner and the main burner being axially and radially offset relative to each other, said common main zone comprising:

an outer flame-tube wall, and

an inner flame-tube wall, each wall provided with ports for the introduction of air into the common main zone, with said main burner being radially positioned toward the outer flame-tube wall and with said pilot burner being radially positioned toward the inner flame-tube wall,

wherein the outer-flame tube wall [includes] ports include a first arrangement of ports including a single first row of ports and the inner flame-tube wall [includes] ports include a second arrangement of ports including a single first row of ports, with an alignment of the ports of the second arrangement being either on-center or off-center with interspaces of the first row of ports of the first arrangement.